SPONSOR: Rep. Miro; on behalf of all Representatives

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 16

REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN'S MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND FOR STREGTHENING AND EXPANDING SISTER-STATE TIES BETWEEN THE STATE OF DELAWARE AND TAIWAN.

WHEREAS, Taiwan shares the common values of freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law with the United States and the State of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Taiwan held its sixth direct presidential-election and inaugurated Dr. Tsai Ing-wen as its first woman president in a peaceful transition of power, demonstrating the strength and vitality of its democratic system and showcasing Taiwan as a beacon of democracy for Asia and beyond; and

WHEREAS, September 12, 2017 will mark the 17th anniversary of the sister-state relationship between Delaware and Taiwan; the sister-state relationship with Taiwan has been strengthened through the efforts of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO), resulting in better mutual understanding and enhancing the friendship, trust, and cooperation between Delaware and Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, the United States is Taiwan’s second largest trading partner and second largest destination of Taiwan outward investment; Taiwan is the tenth largest trading partner of the United States, with bilateral trade reaching $65.3 billion in 2016, and eighth largest export destination for U.S. agricultural goods, and overall the fourteenth largest export market; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, bilateral trade between Delaware and Taiwan reached $191 million, in which Delaware exported $98 million to Taiwan, making Taiwan the twelfth largest export market in the world, and Delaware imported $93 million from Taiwan, making Taiwan the third largest import market in Asia, demonstrating that Taiwan is not only a friendly sister-state of Delaware but also an important trading partner; and

WHEREAS, by working together with Taiwan, Delaware welcomes all opportunities for an even closer economic partnership to increase trade and investment, to boost greater Delaware exports to Taiwan, and to enhance the special sister-state bond between Delaware and Taiwan, resulting in further cultural, educational, and business exchanges between the citizens of Taiwan and Delaware; and

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WHEREAS, Taiwan and the U.S. have combined efforts to address regional and global challenges under the mechanism of U.S.-Taiwan Global Cooperation and Training Framework (GCTF), and jointly conduct capacity building programs for regional experts in areas of public health, women empowerment, energy efficiency and e-commerce; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan has been proven to be a valuable contributor in a broad range of global issues and is necessary to be granted access to meaningfully participate in various international organizations including the World Health Organization (WHO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 149th General Assembly of the State of Delaware that we reaffirm our commitment to the strengthening and deepening of the sister-state relationship between Taiwan and the State of Delaware; commend Taiwan's vibrant full-fledged democracy with yet another peaceful transition of government; continues to support Taiwan's meaningful participation and contribution in international organizations which impact the health, safety, and well-being of its people, and supports its aspiration to make more contributions in international societies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we congratulate President Tsai Ing-wen on her historic victory as well as her strong leadership in her first year in office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor John Carney of Delaware, and another sent to Mr. Stanley Kao, the Representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the U.S.